

Scott talks cooperation with Republican lawmakers

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TALLAHASSEE -- Conservatives are looking for big things out of the enlarged Republican majority at the state Capitol, Gov. Rick Scott told GOP senators Tuesday evening.

Meeting with the chamber's Republican caucus at Andrew's 228, a restaurant a few minutes from the Capitol, Scott talked about speaking to an event in Orlando last week sponsored by the libertarian Cato Institute.

"People have real high expectations for all of us," Scott said. "They really believe that, because of the Legislature we have, because of the governor we have, we can make bigger changes than the rest of the country."

In addition to the election of Scott, a more reliable conservative than the Republican-turned-independent former Gov. Charlie Crist, the fall elections saw the GOP sweep to nearly unstoppable majorities in the Legislature.

Following that line of thinking, Scott promised to try to work effectively and cooperatively with lawmakers.

"We're going to have ideas, and you're going to have ideas, and by putting that together, hopefully we're going to come up with some great bills," he said.